

ACSI-DFIWE

25 JUL 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SUBJECT: VC/NVA Logistics (U)

1. (S) During the working sessions on NIE 14.3-66, "North Vietnamese Military Potential for Fighting in South Vietnam," it became apparent that among the representatives there were considerable differences in judgment concerning VC/NVA logistics requirements, particularly for Class V supplies. The actual focus of these differing judgments was the size of VC and NVA infantry battalion's basic load of Class V and the methodology used to derive requirement factors from these basic loads.

2. (S) Preliminary studies of our own, indicated that the factors eventually used in NIE 14.3-66 to derive VC/NVA Class V requirements were too high. Though we had, at the time, insufficient evidence to substantiate our view, we informed the Board of National Estimates, the Office of Research and Reports and the DIA representatives that we would complete our study of VC/NVA Class V requirements and provide them with the finished product.

3. (C) The findings of our analysis of over 160 separate intelligence reports and studies, which were culled from several hundred such documents, clearly support the position we maintained during formulation of NIE 14.3-66. The findings are attached for your information.

4. (S) NIE 14.3-66 calculates that the daily VC/NVA requirement for Class V supplies from sources external to South Vietnam is from 12 to 20 short tons. Using the same methodology as NIE 14.3-66 for extrapolating VC/NVA requirements from basic load data and rates of consumption, but substituting the figures developed in our analysis for those used in the NIE, we determine the VC/NVA daily requirement for Class V supplies from external sources to be 3 short tons.

5. (S) The OACSI analysis is by no means definitive. It does, however, demonstrate that VC/NVA daily requirements for Class V

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DOD DIR 5200.10 DOES NOT APPLY

Army review(s)
completed.

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supplies are probably significantly lower than even the most conservative current estimates, and that the whole range of estimates dealing with enemy logistic requirements needs serious review.

1 Incl
a/s



JOHN J. DAVIS
Major General, GS
ACofS for Intelligence

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